Korean Verbs – The Complete List of Passive, Action, Irregular, and Adjective Words

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In this lesson, we will introduce you to **Korean verbs**! They are the most important part of most sentences in the Korean language, so you will want to learn and memorize as many different verbs as possible.

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Have fun learning these useful and common Korean verbs presented below! Because Korean verbs are typically listed with -다 added to their stems in dictionaries, we will also do so here.

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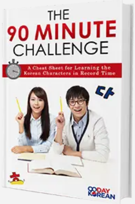
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Korean Verbs

Verbs are an important part of speech in Korean grammar. Learning **Korean verbs** can come off as challenging when you’re just starting. There are many different rules to follow, such as verb endings following the tenses (i.e., past tense, present tense, future tense), honorific form, verb stem, and a lot more. But there are ways you can use to learn them.

In Korea, a verb is called 동사 (dongsa). They have 4 different classifications, namely active, descriptive, existential, and copulas. All these verb classifications are made up

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of a verb stem and a suffix.

One thing unique about it is that once you get to have a lot of verb vocabulary and know how to conjugate them, you'll be able to make your own simple Korean sentence. A Korean verb doesn't need to have a subject to make it stand on its own. A Korean verb, when properly conjugated, can be a sentence on its own.

"Verbs" in Korean

"Verbs" in Korean are called **동사 (dongsa),** while phrasal verbs are called 구동사 (gudongsa).

If you want to talk about linking verbs, you can say it as 연결 동사 (yeongyeol dongsa).

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Common Korean Verbs

Common Korean verbs are words that are often used when speaking or learning Korean. Below is a list of the most common Korean verbs.

English	Korean
to go	🔊 가다 (gada)
to sleep	🔊 자다 (jada)
to eat	🔊 먹다 (meokda)
to walk	🔊 걷다 (geotda)
to write	🔊 쓰다 (sseuda)
to read	🔊 읽다 (ikda)
to give	🔊 주다 (juda)
to call	🔊 전화하다 (jeonhwahada)
to work	🔊 일하다 (ilhada)
to study	🔊 공부하다 (gongbuhada)

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Basic Korean verbs are useful action words that you'll need to learn as you begin learning Korean. These are action words that you can easily learn and use when speaking.

Here are some basic Korean verbs you can start with.

English	Korean
to do	하다 (hada)
to come	오다 (oda)
to go	가다 (kada)
to see	보다 (boda)
to know	알다 (alda)
to drink	마시다 (masida)
to hear, to listen	듣다 (deutda)
to love	사랑하다 (saranghada)
to hate/dislike	싫어하다 (sireohada)
to say, to speak	말하다 (malhada)
to feel bored	심심하다 (simsimhada)
to be boring	지루하다 (jiruhada)

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Korean Verbs List

Below is a useful **Korean verbs list** that will help you build a simple Korean sentence. These are commonly used in conversations in South Korea. These verbs are in their dictionary form. If you want to verify their meaning, you can use these forms to look them up in the dictionary.

English	Korean
to go	🔊 가다 (gada)
to teach	🔊 가르치다 (gareuchida)

to point, to indicate	🔊 가리키다 (garikida)
to take, to carry	🔊 가져가다 (gajyeogada)
to bring	🔊 가져오다 (gayeooda)
to have	🔊 가지다 (gajida)
to change (one's clothes)	🔊 갈아입다 (garaipda)
to change/transfer to (car, metro, train etc.)	🔊 갈아타다 (garatada)
to close one's eyes	🔊 감다 (gamda)
to appreciate, to thank	🔊 감사하다 (gamsahada)
to hide, to disguise	🔊 감추다 (gamchuda)
to have	🔊 갖다 (gatda)
to develop, to create	🔊 개발하다 (gaebalhada)
to collect; to achieve	🔊 거두다 (geoduda)
to lie	🔊 거짓말하다 (geojitmal)
to worry	🔊 걱정하다 (geokjeonghada)
to walk	🔊 걷다 (geotda)
to hang (something on the wall)	🔊 걸다 (geolda)
to go on foot, to walk	🔊 걸어가다 (georeogada)
to come on foot	🔊 걸어오다 (georeooda)
to experience, to undergo	🔊 겪다 (gyeokda)
to endure, to bear, to stand	🔊 견디다 (gyeondida)
to resolve	🔊 결심하다 (gyeolsimhada)
to be decided	🔊 결정되다 (gyeoljeongdwida)
to decide	🔊 결정하다 (gyeoljeonghada)
to marry	🔊 결혼하다 (gyeolhonhada)
to experience	🔊 경험하다 (gyeongheomhada)
to calculate; to pay	🔊 계산하다 (gyesanhada)

to be continued	🔊 계속되다 (gyesokdwida)
to continue, to do continuously	🔊 계속하다 (gyesokhada)
to confess	🔊 고백하다 (gobaekhada)
to consider	🔊 고려하다 (goryeohada)
to choose, to select	🔊 고르다 (goreuda)
to have a hard time, to suffer	🔊 고생하다 (gosaenghada)
to repair, to fix; to revise	🔊 고치다 (gochida)
to study	🔊 공부하다 (gongbuhada)
to wait	🔊 기다리다 (gidarida)
to expect, to anticipate	🔊 기대하다 (gidaehada)
to remember	🔊 기억하다 (gieokhada)
to see the sights, to look around	🔊 구경하다 (gugyeonghada)
to seek; to get; to rescue, to save	🔊 구하다 (guhada)
to roast, to grill, to bake	🔊 굽다 (gupda)
to draw, to paint	🔊 그리다 (geurida)
to stop, to drop, to quit	🔊 그만두다 (geumanduda)
to work	🔊 근무하다 (geunmuhada)
to dream	🔊 꿈꾸다 (kumkuda)
to boil	🔊 끓이다 (kkeulida)
to finish	🔊 끝나다 (keutnada)
to exit	🔊 나가다 (nagada)
to divide, to split; to share	🔊 나누다 (nanuda)
to pay	🔊 내다 (naeda)
to go down	🔊 내려가다 (naeryeogada)
to come down	🔊 내려오다 (naeryeooda)
to put (something in)	🔊 넣다 (neotda)
to sing a song	🔊 노래하다 (noraehada)

to endeavor, to strive	🔊 노력하다 (noryeokhada)
to play	🔊 놀다 (nolda)
to go to; to attend	🔊 다니다 (danida)
to close	🔊 닫다 (datda)
to go through, to suffer	🔊 당하다 (danghada)
to answer	🔊 대답하다 (daedaphada)
to add	🔊 더하다 (deohada)
to take (a person)	🔊 데려가다 (deryeogada)
to bring, to fetch	🔊 데려오다 (deryeooda)
to be attended (by), to be accompanied	🔊 데리다 (derida)
to arrive	🔊 도착하다 (dochakhada)
to run away	🔊 도망가다 (domanggada)
to help	🔊 도와주다 (dowajuda)
to take care, to look after	🔊 돌보다 (dolboda)
to help	🔊 돕다 (dopda)
to become, to come to	🔊 되다 (dwida)
to fall, to drop; to fail	🔊 떨어지다 (ddeoreojida)
to run, to dash	🔊 뛰다 (ddwida)
to hear, to listen	🔊 듣다 (deutda)
to enter	🔊 들어오다 (deureooda)
to prepare, to arrange	🔊 마련하다 (maryeonhada)
to drink	🔊 마시다 (masida)
to make	🔊 만들다 (mandeulda)
to meet	🔊 만나다 (mannada)
to touch	🔊 만지다 (manjida)
to speak	🔊 말하다 (malhada)
to entrust, to leave	🔊 맡기다 (matgida)

to tie, to fasten, to wear	🔊 매다 (maeda)
to stay	🔊 머무르다 (meomureuda)
to eat	🔊 먹다 (meokda)
to not know	🔊 모르다 (moreuda)
to gather, to collect	🔊 모으다 (moeuda)
to be incapable, to not be able to	🔊 못하다 (mothada)
to ignore, to neglect	🔊 무시하다 (musihada)
to ask	🔊 묻다 (mutda)
to bite	🔊 물다 (mulda)
to ask	🔊 물어보다 (mureoboda)
to delay, to postpone; to shift blame	🔊 미루다 (miruda)
to believe, to trust	🔊 믿다 (mitda)
to change, to switch	🔊 바꾸다 (bakkuda)
to change, to be changed	🔊 바뀌다 (bakkwida)
to wish, to hope, to want	🔊 바라다 (barada)
to look at	🔊 바라보다 (baraboda)
to oppose	🔊 반대하다 (bandaehada)
to get, to take, to receive	🔊 받다 (batda)
to discover, to find	🔊 발견하다 (balgyeonhada)
to develop, to advance	🔊 발달하다 (baldalhada)
to happen, to occur	🔊 발생하다 (balsaenghada)
to develop, to grow	🔊 발전하다 (baljeonhada)
to announce, to make public	🔊 발표하다 (balpyohada)
to visit	🔊 방문하다 (bangmunhada)
to throw away, to abandon	🔊 버리다 (beorida)
to undress, take off clothes	🔊 벗다 (beotda)
to make (money), to earn (money)	🔊 벌다 (beolda)

to change	🔊 변하다 (byeonhada)
to change	🔊 변화하다 (byeonhwahada)
to see, to watch	🔊 보다 (boda)
to sing; to call (for someone)	🔊 부르다 (bureuda)
to ask for a favor, to request	🔊 부탁하다 (butakhada)
to send	🔊 보내다 (bonaeda)
to fry	🔊 볶다 (bokda)
to blow	🔊 불다 (bulda)
to stick	🔊 붙이다 (buchida)
to compare	🔊 비교하다 (bigyohada)
to borrow, to lend	🔊 빌리다 (billida)
to fall	🔊 빠지다 (ppajida)
to remove, to subtract, to take out	🔊 빼다 (ppaeda)
to learn	🔊 배우다 (baeuda)
to pull; to select, to choose	🔊 뽑다 (ppopda)
to buy	🔊 사다 (sada)
to disappear	🔊 사라지다 (sarajida)
to use	🔊 사용하다 (sayonghada)
to love	🔊 사랑하다 (saranghada)
to live	🔊 살다 (salda)
to examine, to search, to check	🔊 살펴보다 (salpyeoboda)
to imagine	🔊 상상하다 (sangsanghada)
to think	🔊 생각하다 (saenggakada)
to be formed, to look (like)	🔊 생기다 (saenggida)
to stand	🔊 서다 (seoda)
to hurry, rush	🔊 서두르다 (seodureuda)
to give a present	🔊 선물하다 (seonmulhada)

to choose, to select	🔊 선택하다 (seontaekhada)
to explain	🔊 설명하다 (seolmyeonghada)
to succeed	🔊 성공하다 (seonggonghada)
to introduce	🔊 소개하다 (sogaehada)
to shout, to yell	🔊 소리치다 (sorichida)
to rest, to relax, to take a day off	🔊 쉬다 (swida)
to start	🔊 시작하다 (sijakhada)
to make (somebody do); to order	🔊 시키다 (sikida)
to have a meal	🔊 식사하다 (siksahada)
to wear (shoes, socks, etc.)	🔊 신다 (sinda)
to make a mistake	🔊 실수하다 (silsuhada)
to dislike	🔊 싫어하다 (sileohada)
to fail	🔊 실패하다 (silpaehada)
to fight, to argue	🔊 싸우다 (ssauda)
to mix, to blend	🔊 섞다 (seokda)
to chop, to slice	🔊 썰다 (sseolda)
to write; to wear (hat, eyewear)	🔊 쓰다 (sseuda)
to wash	🔊 씻다 (ssitda)
to hug, to hold	🔊 안다 (anda)
to sit	🔊 앉다 (anda)
to know	🔊 알다 (alda)
to let somebody know, to inform	🔊 알리다 (allida)
to check, to investigate; to recognize	🔊 알아보다 (araboda)
to promise	🔊 약속하다 (yaksokhada)
to get along; to match	🔊 어울리다 (eoullida)
to borrow; to gain, to get, to take	🔊 얻다 (eotda)
to not have	🔊 없다 (eopda)

to remove, to get rid of	🔊 없애다 (eopsaeda)
to travel	🔊 여행하다 (yeohaenghada)
to study, to research	🔊 연구하다 (yeonguhada)
to practice	🔊 연습하다 (yeonseubhada)
to open	🔊 열다 (yeolda)
to come	🔊 오다 (oda)
to cook	🔊 요리하다 (yorihada)
to exercise	🔊 운동하다 (undonghada)
to drive	🔊 운전하다 (unjeonhada)
to move (around)	🔊 움직이다 (umjigida)
to cry	🔊 울다 (ulda)
to laugh	🔊 웃다 (utda)
to want	🔊 원하다 (wonhada)
to mean	🔊 의미하다 (uimihada)
to be	🔊 이다 (ida)
to win	🔊 이기다 (igida)
to move (house)	🔊 이사하다 (isahada)
to talk, chat	🔊 이야기하다 (iyagihada)
to use	🔊 이용하다 (iyonghada)
to understand	🔊 이해하다 (ihaehada)
to work	🔊 일하다 (ilhada)
to get up, to stand up	🔊 일어나다 (ireonada)
to read	🔊 읽다 (ikda)
to lose, to be deprived of	🔊 잃다 (ilta)
to lose something	🔊 잃어버리다 (ireobeorida)
to wear	🔊 입다 (ipda)
to forget	🔊 잊다 (itda)

to forget	🔊 잊어버리다 (ijeobeorida)
to have	🔊 있다 (itda)
to sleep	🔊 자다 (jada)
to cut, to sever	🔊 자르다 (jareuda)
to go well	🔊 잘되다 (jaldoeda)
to go wrong	🔊 잘못되다 (jalmotdoeda)
to do wrong	🔊 잘못하다 (jalmotada)
to do something well	🔊 잘하다 (jalhada)
to go to sleep, to fall asleep	🔊 잠들다 (jamdeulda)
to sleep	🔊 잠자다 (jamjada)
to catch, to hold	🔊 잡다 (japda)
to be caught	🔊 잡히다 (japida)
to measure, to weigh	🔊 재다 (jaeda)
to write (down), to note	🔊 적다 (jeokda)
to call	🔊 전화하다 (jeonhwahada)
to arrange, to organize	🔊 정리하다 (jeongnihada)
to decide, to determine	🔊 정하다 (jeonghada)
to investigate, to look into	🔊 조사하다 (josahada)
to be careful, to watch out	🔊 조심하다 (josimhada)
to doze off	🔊 졸다 (jolda)
to graduate	🔊 졸업하다 (joreopada)
to like	🔊 좋아하다 (joahada)
to be sorry	🔊 죄송하다 (joesonghada)
to give	🔊 주다 (juda)
to order	🔊 주문하다 (jumunhada)
to die	🔊 죽다 (jukda)
to prepare	🔊 준비하다 (junbihada)

to enjoy, to have fun	즐기다 (jeulgida)
to increase, to grow	증가하다 (jeunggahada)
to lose, to be defeated	지다 (jida)
to pass (by)	지나가다 (jinagada)
to pass, to go by	지나다 (jinada)
to spend one’s time; to get along	지내다 (jinaeda)
to delete, to remove	지우다 (jiuda)
to steam	찌다 (jjida)
to take (a photo)	찍다 (jjikda)
to attend, to participate	참석하다 (chamseokhada)
to find, to look for	찾다 (chatda)
to take, to pack; to take care of	챙기다 (chaenggida)
to clean	청소하다 (cheongsohada)
to invite	초대하다 (chodaehada)
to congratulate	축하하다 (chukhahada)
to dance	춤추다 (chumchuda)
to depart	출발하다 (chulbalhada)
to cancel, to revoke	취소하다 (chwisohada)
to hit	치다 (chida)
to raise, to bring up, to grow	키우다 (kiuda)
to take, to ride, to get on	타다 (tada)
to be born	태어나다 (taeeonada)
to go through; to communicate	통하다 (tonghada)
to turn (an object); to twist (an object)	틀다 (teulda)
to be wrong, to be incorrect	틀리다 (teullida)
to deep fry	튀기다 (twigida)
to sell	팔다 (palda)

to give up, to abandon	🔊 포기하다 (pogihada)
to include, to contain	🔊 포함하다 (pohamhada)
to express, to show	🔊 표현하다 (pyohyeonhada)
to untie, to unfasten; to solve	🔊 풀다 (pulda)
to bloom, to blossom	🔊 피다 (pida)
to avoid, to escape	🔊 피하다 (pihada)
to need	🔊 필요하다 (pillyohada)
to do	🔊 하다 (hada)
to settle, to solve	🔊 해결하다 (haegyeolhada)
to confirm, to check	🔊 확인하다 (hwaginhada)
to regret	🔊 후회하다 (huhoehada)
to stir	🔊 휘젓다 (hwijeotda)
to flow, to run; to elapse	🔊 흐르다 (heureuda)
to shake, to swing	🔊 흔들다 (heundeulda)

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Korean Regular Verbs

Korean regular verbs are called 규칙동사 (gyuchikdongsa) in Korean. They are easy to conjugate. This means they just follow the verb conjugation patterns when you need to conjugate them. In order to do that, you’ll need to learn the different Korean verb conjugation patterns.

How to conjugate Korean verbs

Verbs in Korean are conjugated by dropping the 다 from the verb stem or the dictionary form of the word and adding the appropriate conjugation patterns or **Korean verb endings**. The conjugation patterns depend on verb tense (past tense, present, and future).

Let’s take the following words:

가다 (to go)

보다 (to see)

배우다 (to learn)

만나다 (to meet)

먹다 (to eat)

공부하다 (to study)

These are regular verbs as they can be easily conjugated using different **Korean verb conjugations**. The character 다 (da) is removed, and the correct conjugation is added with the last vowel of the verb considered. This also applies to Korean adjectives.

Here are the examples of the verbs above with their Korean conjugation:

가다 (to go) – 가요

보다 (to see) – 봐요

배우다 (to learn) – 배워요

만나다 (to meet) – 만나요

먹다 (to eat) – 먹어요

공부하다 (to study) – 공부해요

It's also good to note that the verbs are also conjugated based on speech levels. There are conjugations that are in honorific form.

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Korean Present Tense Verbs List

In this section, we've listed the common Korean verbs with their conjugations in the present tense.

English	Korean	Present tense
to go	가다 (gada)	가요 (gayo)
to sleep	자다 (jada)	자요 (jayo)

to eat	먹다 (meokda)	먹어요 (meogeyo)
to walk	걷다 (geotda)	걸어요 (georeoyo)
to write	쓰다 (sseuda)	써요 (sseoyo)
to read	읽다 (ikda)	읽어요 (ilgeoyo)
to give	주다 (juda)	줘요 (jwoyo)
to call	전화하다 (jeonhwahada)	전화해요 (jeonhwahaeyo)
to work	일하다 (ilhada)	일해요 (ilhaeyo)
to study	공부하다 (gongbuhada)	공부해요 (gongbuhaeyo)
to do	하다 (hada)	해요 (haeyo)
to come	오다 (oda)	와요 (wayo)
to see	보다 (boda)	봐요 (bwayo)
to know	알다 (alda)	알아요 (arayo)
to drink	마시다 (masida)	마셔요 (masyeoyo)
to hear, to listen	듣다 (deutda)	들어요 (deureoyo)
to love	사랑하다 (saranghada)	사랑해요 (saranghaeyo)
to hate/dislike	싫어하다 (sireohada)	싫어해요 (sireohaeyo)
to say, to speak	말하다 (malhada)	말해요 (malhaeyo)
to feel bored	심심하다 (simsimhada)	심심해요 (simsimhaeyo)
to be boring	지루하다 (jiruhada)	지루해요 (jiruhaeyo)

Korean Past Tense Verbs List

In this section, we've listed the common Korean verbs with their conjugations in the past tense.

English	Korean	Past Tense
to go	가다 (gada)	갔어요 (gasseoyo)
to sleep	자다 (jada)	잤어요 (jasseoyo)
to eat	먹다 (meokda)	먹었어요 (meogeosseoyo)
to walk	걷다 (geotda)	걸었어요 (georeosseoyo)

to write	쓰다 (sseuda)	썼어요 (sseosseoyo)
to read	읽다 (ikda)	읽었어요 (ilgeosseoyo)
to give	주다 (juda)	줬어요 (jwosseoyo)
to call	전화하다 (jeonhwahada)	전화했어요 (jeonhwahaesseoyo)
to work	일하다 (ilhada)	일했어요 (ilhaesseoyo)
to study	공부하다 (gongbuhada)	공부했어요 (gongbuhaesseoyo)
to do	하다 (hada)	했어요 (haesseoyo)
to come	오다 (oda)	왔어요 (wasseoyo)
to see	보다 (boda)	봤어요 (bwasseoyo)
to know	알다 (alda)	알았어요 (arasseoyo)
to drink	마시다 (masida)	마셨어요 (masyesseoyo)
to hear, to listen	듣다 (deutda)	들었어요 (deureosseoyo)
to love	사랑하다 (saranghada)	사랑했어요 (saranghaesseoyo)
to hate/dislike	싫어하다 (sireohada)	싫어했어요 (sireohaesseoyo)
to say, to speak	말하다 (malhada)	말했어요 (malhaesseoyo)
to feel bored	심심하다 (simsimhada)	심심했어요 (simsimhaesseoyo)
to be boring	지루하다 (jiruhada)	지루했어요 (jiruhaesseoyo)

Irregular Korean Verbs

Korean irregular verbs are known as 불규칙 동사 (bulgyuchik dongsa) in Korean grammar. They change their spelling or form when they're conjugated. They usually have 받침 (batchim) in the last syllable of their stem. They are classified according to the 받침 (batchim) they have. However, it's also important to know that not all verbs with their stem ending in 받침 (batchim) are irregular.

Korean irregular verbs are usually given special rules when using a certain verb conjugation pattern. This also applies to Korean adjectives.

Below are lists of the different Korean irregular verbs. These verbs are also in their dictionary form.

ㄷ Korean irregular verbs

These Korean verbs have their stem end with ㄷ 받침 (batchim).

English	Korean
to walk	🔊 걷다 (geotda)
to load	🔊 싣다 (sitda)
to listen	🔊 듣다 (deutda)
to ask	🔊 묻다 (mutda)
to realize	🔊 깨닫다 (kkaedatda)

ㄹ Korean irregular verbs

These Korean verbs have their stem end with ㄹ 받침(batchim).

English	Korean
to play	🔊 놀다 (nolda)
to carry	🔊 들다 (deulda)
to make	🔊 만들다 (mandeulda)
to live	🔊 살다 (salda)
to know	🔊 알다 (alda)
to open, unlock	🔊 열다 (yeolda)
to cry	🔊 울다 (ulda)
to sell	🔊 팔다 (palda)

ㅂ Korean irregular verbs

These Korean verbs have their stem end with ㅂ 받침 (batchim).

English	Korean
to help	돕다 (dopda)
to hate	밉다 (mipda)
to envy	부럽다 (bureopda)

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르 Korean irregular verbs

These are Korean verbs that have 르 as their verb stem ending.

English	Korean
to divide	가르다 (gareuda)
to choose	고르다 (goreuda)
to roll	구르다 (gureuda)
to bring up	기르다 (gireuda)
to carry	나르다 (nareuda)
to press	누르다 (nureuda)
to flow	흐르다 (heureuda)
to stab	찌르다 (jjireuda)
to cut	자르다 (jareuda)
to climb	오르다 (oreuda)
to hurry	서두르다 (seodureuda)
to call	부르다 (bureuda)
to apply, put on	바르다 (bareuda)
to not knsa	모르다 (moreuda)
to put around	두르다 (dureuda)

ㅅ Korean irregular verbs

These Korean verbs have their stem end with ㅅ 받침 (batchim).

English	Korean
to recover	낫다 (natda)
to build or construct	짓다 (jitda)
to rule	긋다 (geutda)
to join or connect something	잇다 (itda)

으 Korean irregular verbs

These are Korean verbs that have 으 as their verb stem ending.

English	Korean
to try	애쓰다 (aesseuda)
to write	쓰다 (sseuda)
to close	끄다 (kkeuda)
to rise	뜨다 (tteuda)
to gather	모으다 (moeuda)

ㅎ Korean irregular verbs or adjectives

These Korean verbs have their stem end with ㅎ 받침 (batchim).

English	Korean
to be yellow	노랗다 (norata)
to be red	빨갛다 (ppalgata)
to be black	까맣다 (kkamata)
to be white	하얗다 (hayata)
to be that way, to be so	그렇다 (geureota)
to be a certain way	어떻다 (eotteota)

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“To do” in Korean

“To do” in Korean is 하다 (hada). This verb is considered a regular verb.

You’ll often see the word 하다 (hada) in many Korean words, and these are called 하다 (hada) verbs.

The verb 하다 (hada) is usually added to words that are nouns to make them a verb. For example, the words 걱정하다 (geokjeonghada | to worry), 공부하다 (gongbuhada | to study), and 노래하다 (noraehada | to sing). When 하다 (hada) is removed from these words, what’s left is a noun: 걱정 (geokjeong | worry), 공부(gongbu | study), and 노래 (norae | song).

Here are some other examples of words made up of a noun and 하다 (hada):

English	Korean
to worry	🔊 걱정하다 (geokjeonghada)
to study	🔊 공부하다 (gongbuhada)
to sing	🔊 노래하다 (noraehada)
to answer	🔊 대답하다 (daedapada)
to speak	🔊 말하다 (malhada)
to deliver	🔊 배달하다 (baedalhada)
to do the laundry	🔊 빨래하다 (ppallaehada)
to ask a favor	🔊 부탁하다 (butakada)
to love	🔊 사랑하다 (saranghada)

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Korean Adjectives

Korean adjectives are called 형용사 (hyeongyongsa). They are also known as descriptive verbs as they function to modify nouns. This is because most of them come from verbs. Korean adjectives are used to describe people, things, events, or experiences.

However, a Korean adjective may originate from a verb, but it can never function as an action verb.

Korean Adjectives List

Below is a **Korean adjectives list** to help you describe people, things, events, or experiences.

English	Korean
to be glad, happy	🔊 기쁘다 (gippeuda)
to be angry	🔊 화나다 (hwanada)
to be sad	🔊 슬프다 (seulpeuda)
to be sick, painful	🔊 아프다 (apeuda)
to be scared	🔊 무섭다 (museopda)
to be annoyed	🔊 짜증나다 (jjajeungnada)
to be surprised	🔊 놀라다 (nollada)
to be shy	🔊 수줍다 (sujupda)
to be interesting	🔊 재미있다 (jaemiitda)
to not be interesting	🔊 재미없다 (jaemieopda)
to be loud, noisy	🔊 시끄럽다 (sikkeureopda)
to be hot	🔊 뜨겁다 (tteugeopda)

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Korean Descriptive Verb

Korean descriptive verbs are also known as Korean adjectives. Adjectives in Korean look and act similar to verbs. However, sometimes, the conjugations will be different based on whether it’s a verb or an adjective.

You can know if it’s considered a verb or adjective by looking it up in a Korean dictionary such as Naver. Typically if the word is an adjective in English, it’s often an adjective in Korean.

Korean Descriptive Verb List

You’ll learn some of the many Korean descriptive verbs in this section. Below is a **Korean descriptive list** of words you can use and learn to get started.

English	Korean
to be easy/convenient	편하다 (pyeonhada)
to be hard	힘들다 (himdeulda)
to be close (to someone)	친하다 (chinhada)
to be enjoyable	즐겁다 (jeulgeopda)
to be scary	무섭다 (museopda)
to be glad	기쁘다 (gippeuda)
to be lonely	외롭다 (oeropda)
to be happy	행복하다 (haengbokada)

Korean Passive Verbs

Korean passive verbs are called 피동사 (pidongsa). The common suffixes to make a verb in its passive form are 되 or 돼, 이, 히, 리, and 기.

The suffix 되 (doe) or 돼 (dwae) are used to make a verb ending in 하다 (hada) into passive.

For example:

사용하다 (to use)

비교하다 (to compare)

When they are used as a passive verb, they'll have the following forms:

사용되다 (to be used)

비교되다 (to be compared)

The other suffixes 이, 히, 리, and 기, are used for non-하다 verbs. For example,

보다 (to see)

잊다 (to forget)

열다 (to open)

잠그다 (to lock)

They take the following passive forms:

보다 – 보이다 (to be seen)

잊다 – 잊히다 (to be forgotten)

열다 – 열리다 (to be opened)

잠그다 – 잠기다 (to be locked)

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How many verb tenses are there in Korean?

Similar to the English language, Korean verbs also have the **3 main verb tenses**. They're the present tense, past tense, and future tense.

Korean verbs also have progressive tense and perfect tense. These tenses also take an honorific form. If you're learning Korean verbs, you might also want to learn the honorific form of the verbs according to their tenses.

For example, -습니다 (-seumnida) and -ㅂ니다 (-bnida). 습니다 (-seumnida) is used if the verb ends in a consonant. On the other hand, -ㅂ니다 (-bnida) is used if the verb ends in a vowel.

How are Korean verbs formed based on the tenses?

Korean verbs are formed based on tenses by verb conjugation. If you want to learn about Korean verb conjugation, you can check our resource here.

How do you say the tenses in Korean?

There are different words used for the English word "tense." However, in this section, we'll talk about the Korean word used for the verb tenses.

The Korean word for tense is 시제 (sije).

Korean Verb Tenses

Below are Korean words for the different verb tenses (present, past tense, and future tense).

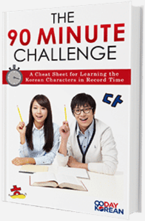
English	**Korean**
Present Tense	🔊 현재 시제 (hyeonjae sije)
Past Tense	🔊 과거 시제 (gwageo sije)
Future Tense	🔊 미래 시제 (mirae sije)

The other verb tense includes the following:

English	**Korean**
Progressive Tense	🔊 진행 시제 (jinhaeng sije)
Perfect Tense	🔊 완료 시제 (wallyo sije)

Wrap Up

For the duration of this lesson, you did not need to stress over how to actually put these verbs to use. For this, you would need to know and use Korean conjugations. If you want to get started on forming sentences around these Korean verbs, your next step should be to learn the conjugations, which you can do right here!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VICTORY
Jun 24, 2023 At 4:28 Pm

This is a very great way to learn

Reply

90 DAY KOREAN
Jun 26, 2023 At 5:36 Pm

Thanks for your comment, Victory! I'm glad that you've found our article helpful! ^^ If you want more Korean lessons, you can also check our check our blog and visit our YouTube channel for articles and videos with great Korean content.

Reply

LOU
Jan 12, 2023 At 10:53 Am

What is the explanation for the verb to exist, 있다 ?

Reply

90 DAY KOREAN
Jan 13, 2023 At 1:10 Pm

Hello, Lou! 있다 expresses the existence or location of something, which could be translated as 'to be located in/on' in English.
[place]에 A이/가 있다 or A이/가 [place]에 있다=A is in/on [place]
e.g. 책상 위에 컴퓨터가 있어요 =The computer is on the desk. 제이미가 집에 있

어요 =Jamie is at home.
I hope this helped!

Reply

CAER
Nov 10, 2022 At 4:42 Pm

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Reply

90 DAY KOREAN
Nov 16, 2022 At 2:37 Pm

Thanks for the comment! ^^ You can download the PDF version of the Korean Verbs – The Complete List of Passive, Action, Irregular, and Adjective Words article by clicking the red button inside the article that says "Get Korean Verbs Free PDF Guide." You'll then have to enter a working email address since the free lesson will be sent to your email. Kindly check your Promotions or Junk Folder since the emails can sometimes be placed there.

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Reply

ARPIT GUPTA
Aug 27, 2022 At 12:39 Am

This is a great post! I've been wanting to learn more about Korean verbs and this post has given me a lot to think about.

Reply

90 DAY KOREAN
Aug 30, 2022 At 6:30 Pm

Awesome, thanks for your kind words! ^^ If you want to have more Korean lessons, you can also check our blog and visit our YouTube channel for articles and videos with great Korean content.

Reply

NORAH MIE
Aug 06, 2022 At 7:19 Am

Thank you so much. You've helped in the improvement of my knowledge for korean

Reply

90 DAY KOREAN
Aug 09, 2022 At 5:26 Pm

Cool, thanks for the comment and for sharing. ^^ If you want to improve your Korean language skills, we have a step-by-step resource guide called Learn Korean Online: How-To Guide for Language Study that you can follow in learning Korean. You can also check our blog and visit our YouTube channel for articles and videos with great Korean content.

Reply

ABDANI A OMAR
Aug 29, 2023 At 11:35 Pm

Very nice

Reply

90 DAY KOREAN
Aug 30, 2023 At 1:19 Pm

Thanks for appreciating, Abdani! ^^ If you want to know more about the Korean language and culture, you can also check our blog and visit our YouTube channel for articles and videos with great Korean content.

Reply

ME
Sep 07, 2023 At 11:22 Pm

거짓말하다 (geojitmal) how come ㅅis t? I thought it was s and ㅌ is t?

Reply

90 DAY KOREAN
Sep 12, 2023 At 6:46 Pm

Hi! When ㄷ,ㅌ,ㅅ,ㅆ,ㅈ,ㅊ,ㅎ are used as Batchim (a final consonant), it’s pronounced like “t”. So 거짓말하다’s 짓 is pronounced like ‘jit’. ^^

Reply

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